SURVEYS OF EUTR OPERATORS THROUGHOUT THE EU

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How is the EUTR implemented by industry, what are the challenges and costs to businesses?

Simple?
Considerable effort...

- All CAs contacted
- ≥2509 operators contacted
- 85 trade associations contacted
- Online questionnaire (incl. translations)
- Telephone interviews (multiple languages)
…yet small sample size!

- 16 CAs out of 31 contacted
- 122 operators out of ≥2509 contacted
- 10 trade associations out of 85 contacted
Sampling bias

• Different numbers of operators contacted in each MS…
  Do all CAs know their operator population?
• Bias towards bigger businesses & from timber-related sectors…
  Are they more vocal than others?

Non-sampling bias

• Low response rates across some sectors and from particular MS….
  Were operators who are unaware of, or not fully complying with the EUTR more reluctant to respond?
Results

• Anecdotal information – handle with care!
• Bear in mind methodology and background
• No changes….?!
Operators’ views of the main challenges in implementing EUTR (N=122)

Figure 4.2: Issues encountered with implementing EUTR by respondents.

(92 respondents answered this question in total.)
Cost of EUTR implementation

• Annual implementation costs:
  • Reported as number: EUR 0 - EUR 8 million
  • Reported as % of turnover: 0.1% - 25%

Sample size, methodological biases & asking for business information!
Results

- Various implementation issues:
  - What is a good DDS?
  - How to assess and mitigate risk
  - Role of certification vs EUTR?
  - Uneven application of the EUTR across MS
    - Guidelines
    - Share and harmonise approach and provide standardised resources
  - Bureaucracy
    - Highlight ultimate goal of EUTR (FLEGT Action Plan & EU Communication on Stepping up EU Action to Protect and Restore the World’s Forests).
Further operator engagement needed nationally...
Any national specific research institutions relevant to EUTR?
How to identify those operators who are unaware or not (fully) complying with the EUTR?

Enforcement or awareness?
Any national resources developed for operators?
THANK YOU

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